

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Please cancel claims 16 and 19.*

*Please replace claims 1, 11, 12, 17 and 20, and add new claims 21-22, as follows:*

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1. (Amended) A step system comprising:  
a length of a connecting material; and  
a plurality of steps attached to the connecting material, said steps being spaced apart  
by a distance sufficient to allow an adult to kneel between neighboring steps;  
wherein each said step comprises a toehold portion and a base portion attached to  
the connecting material, said toehold portion defined by an upper generally planar support  
surface for engaging a portion of a user's foot, an opposing lower surface, and an edge  
surface extending therebetween;  
wherein said upper generally planar support surface is disposed substantially  
perpendicular to said base portion.

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11. (Amended) A step system comprising:  
a plurality of steps, said steps being disposed on a support structure at variable  
distances from one another as selectively determined by a user;  
wherein each said step comprises a toehold portion and a base portion attached to  
the connecting material, said toehold portion defined by an upper generally planar support  
surface for engaging a portion of a user's foot, an opposing lower surface, and an edge  
surface extending therebetween;

wherein said upper generally planar support surface is disposed substantially perpendicular to said base portion.

*b3 Cork*  
12. (Amended) The step system of Claim 11, wherein the steps are spaced out of parallel.

*bf*  
16.  
17. (Amended) The step system of Claim 8, wherein said handle is formed as an opening in said toehold portion.

*bf*  
18.  
20. (Amended) The step system of Claim 11, wherein a handle is formed as an opening in said toehold portion.

*bf*  
-- 19.  
21. (Newly added) The step system of Claim 11, further comprising a connecting material, wherein said plurality of steps are attached to the connecting material.--

*bf*  
-- 20.  
22. (Newly added) The step system of Claim 11, wherein the support structure comprises a building roof.--